

More information

VCP Customer Services Unit
1-800-777-9229

**Hearing impaired, please call
the California Relay Service at
1-800-735-2929**

All Languages Accommodated
www.boc.ca.gov

The district attorney's office or law enforcement in your county (see the white *Government Pages* of your local telephone directory) may refer you to the nearest Victim/Witness Assistance Center

or

Victims of Crime Resource Center
1-800-VICTIMS (1-800-842-8467)

Other resources
National Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-SAFE (1-800-799-7233)
1-800-787-3224 (TTY)

California Alliance Against Domestic Violence
1-800-524-4765

Statewide California Coalition for Battered Women
1-888-722-2952

California Safe at Home Confidential Address Program
1-877-322-5227

Social Security Administration New Numbers for Victims of Domestic Violence
1-800-772-1213
1-800-325-0778 (TDD)

Board Members

Clothilde V. Hewlett/Interim Director
Department of General Services
Chairman of the Board

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Victim Compensation
& Government Claims Board



Help^{for}

Domestic Violence

Victims



Note: This brochure is intended to provide general information *only*. It does not include all of the requirements of the Victim Compensation Program. **Revised January 2002**



Are you or a family member a victim of domestic violence? The California Victim Compensation Program (VCP) can help.

Dear Californians:

No one deserves to suffer from the physical, emotional, and financial costs of being a crime victim.

If you have been a victim of a crime, the State Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board and its network of victim advocates and providers throughout the state can help you recover financially. This program is funded from fines and fees paid by offenders, not California taxpayers.

Please use this brochure to learn about this important program or contact the Board at 1-800-777-9229 for more information.

Sincerely,



GRAY DAVIS

Governor of California

Who is eligible?

A person who suffers an injury or the threat of injury as a result of a crime in California.

A California resident who suffers an injury or the threat of injury as a result of a crime or terrorism wherever it takes place.

Residents of the United States who are:

Parents, siblings, spouses, children, grandparents, and grandchildren of persons who suffer injury or are threatened with injury during a crime or die as a result of a crime may be eligible.

Another family member of the victim, including the victim's fiancé(e), if he or she witnessed the crime.

A person living in the victim's household at the time of the crime or had lived with the victim for at least two years in a relationship similar to a spouse, child, parent, or sibling of the victim.

Someone who becomes the primary caretaker of a minor victim after the crime.

Any of these individuals who are not residents of the United States may be eligible for mental health counseling.

Note: VCP may pay expenses that resulted from a crime, but applicants first must pursue all other sources of reimbursement, such as medical insurance.

What expenses may be paid?

- ☐ Moving or relocation expenses*
- ☐ Home security installation or improvement
- ☐ Medical/dental expenses
- ☐ Mental health treatment or counseling
- ☐ Wage or income loss*
- ☐ Financial support for dependents of a deceased or disabled victim*
- ☐ Funeral and/or burial expenses*
- ☐ Crime-scene cleanup (homicide only)
- ☐ Job retraining for a disabled victim
- ☐ Home or vehicle renovation or retrofitting for a permanently disabled victim

The maximum amount that can be paid may vary, and certain restrictions apply. Contact your local Victim/Witness Assistance Center for more information.

Filing assistance

Victim/Witness Assistance Centers in every county have trained staff to assist victims in applying for compensation under VCP.

The law allows VCP to pay up to \$500 for a private attorney to assist you in the application process. Attorney fees are not subtracted from your payment. The law prohibits any private attorney from charging, demanding, receiving, or collecting any amount for their services, except those paid by VCP.

**Available as an Emergency Award (advance)*